

# CANCER MANTIS.



## CHARACTER GENERICUS.

*Pedes* octo (rarius sex aut decem;) insuper manus duæ chelatae.

*Oculi* duo, distantes, plurimis pedunculati; elongati, mobiles.

*Cauda* articulata, inermis.

## CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

CANCER MANTIS. *C. maerourus* articularis, manibus adactylis, compressis, falcatis, serrato-dentatis.

*Lin. Syst. Nat.* p. 1054.

Squilla MANTIS.

*Fabr. sp. ins.* 1. p. 514.

CANCER arenarius.

*Rumph. mus. t.* 3. f. 2.

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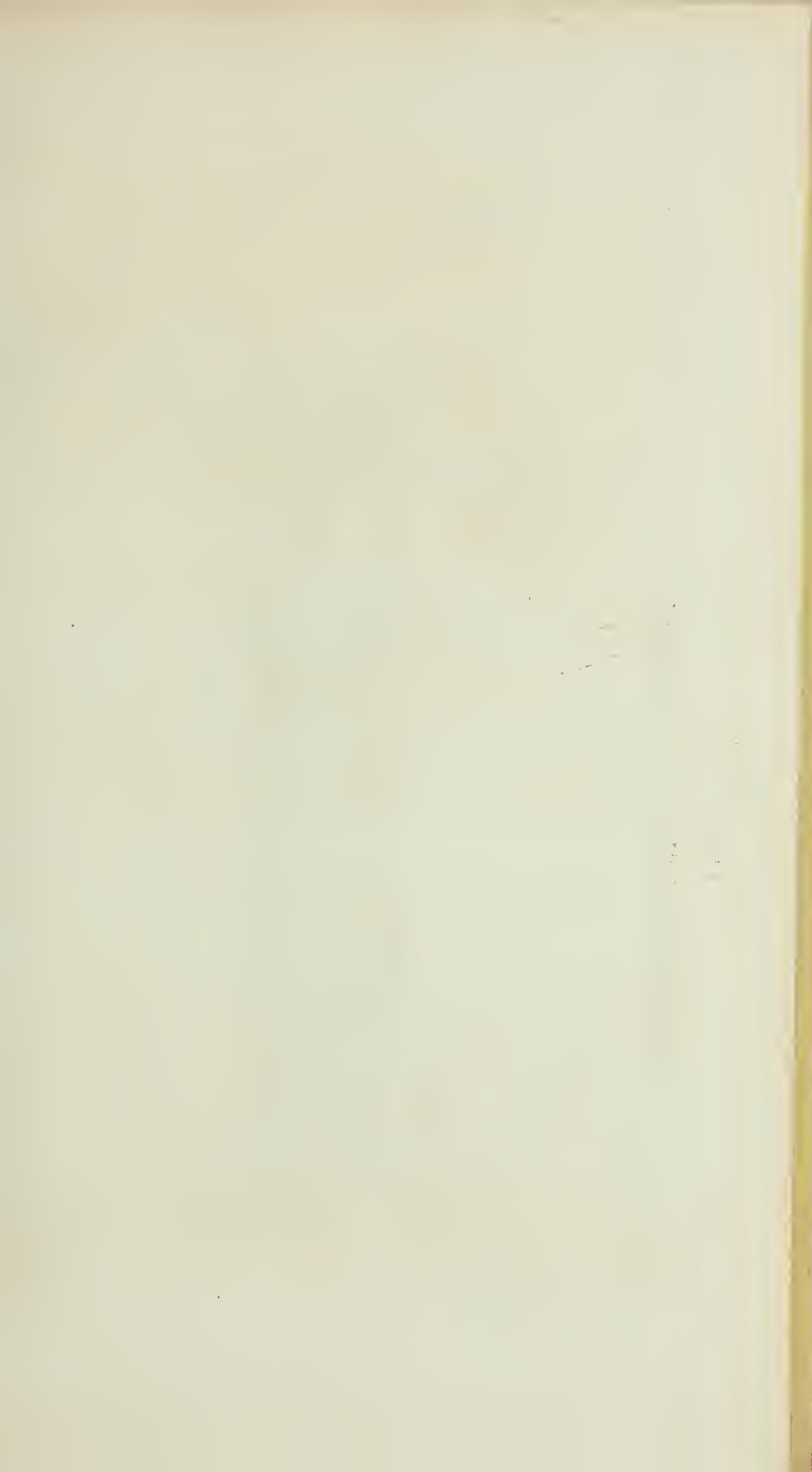
Nomen adeptus est *Cancer Mantis* ab exilitate et gracilitate corporis; qua in re accedit quodammodo  
ad

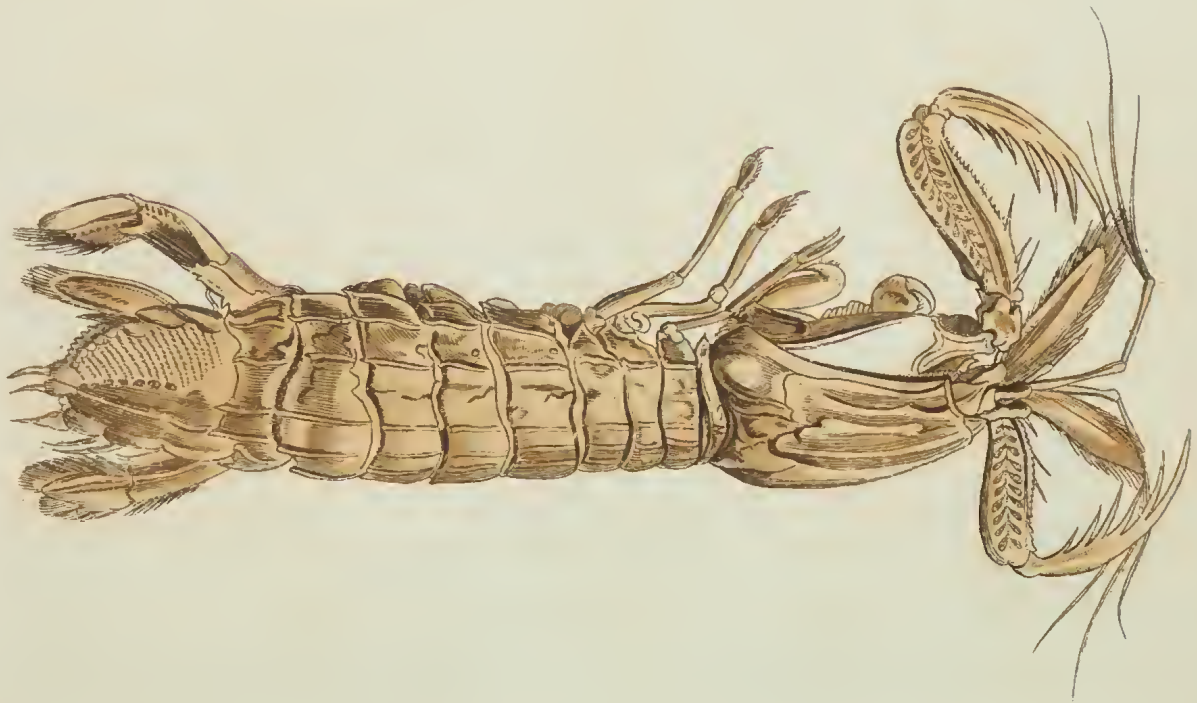
ad similitudinem insectorum quæ complectitur genus Mantis. In mari innascitur mediterraneo, repertus præcipue apud oras Italicas.

In systemate Fabriciano non satis ad normam redacto datur huic speciei genus distinctum nomine Squillæ.

De novis plurimisque generibus nuperrime institutis liceat mihi dicere, me iudice, obscurari ab iis insectorum historiam magis quam elucidari, quique antea satis clarus erat et facilis investigationis modus, eum incertum sæpius et difficilem reddi.

Major sæpe est Cancer Mantis quam qui in tabula ostenditur.





R. P. Nodder. Sculpin.

THE  
LONG-BODIED CRAB.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

*Legs* generally eight, (in some species six or ten,) besides two claspers or chelated arms.

*Eyes* two, commonly distant; footstalked, moveable.

*Tail* jointed.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Long-tailed many-jointed CRAB, with fingerless, compressed, falcated, tooth-serrated chelæ.

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The Cancer Mantis, so named from its long and slender habit, in which it in some measure resembles the insects of the genus *Mantis*, is a native of the mediterranean sea, and is principally observed about the Italian coasts.

In the singular and irregular system of Fabricius, this species ranks under a distinct genus entitled *Squilla*.

I may

I may here be permitted to observe, that of many new genera which the spirit of modern entomologists has endeavoured to establish it may with truth be affirmed that they have rather tended to obscure than elucidate the history of insects, by rendering that investigation troublesome and uncertain which was before sufficiently easy and clear.

The Cancer Mantis is often found of a much larger size than represented on the present plate.